

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 05318 01 OF 03 201331Z

43

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /025 W

----- 014418

P 201300Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2225

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 CAIRO 5318

JIDDA FOR CODEL HASKELL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (HASKELL, FLOYD K.)

SUBJECT: CODEL HASKELL - WRAP UP

1. SUMMARY. SENATOR FLOYD K. HASKELL PAID USEFUL THREE-DAY VISIT TO EGYPT APRIL 16-19, 1976. ON APRIL 17, FOLLOWING BRIEFING BY AMBASSADOR, SENATOR MET WITH SAYED MAR'I, SPEAKER OF PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY, FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY AND PRESIDENT SADAT. ALL MEETINGS WERE SEPARATE FROM CODEL JAVITS. SENATOR WAS GUEST SAME DAY, ALONG WITH SENATOR JAVITS, AT LUNCHEON HOSTED BY FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY. HE MADE ONE-DAY VISIT TO SUEZ CITY AND ISMAILIA WHERE HE MET WITH SUEZ GOVERNOR BURINI AND SUEZ CANAL CHAIRMAN MASHOUR MASHOUR. SENATOR HASKELL HAD A MEETING WITH EGYPTIAN MARXIST MUHAMMED SID AHMAD. ALTHOUGH MEETING WITH MUHAMMED HEYKAL WAS ARRANGED BY CODEL AIDE OLSON FOR APRIL 18, IT DID NOT TAKE PLACE BECAUSE OF SENATOR HASKELL'S DELAYED RETURN FROM ISMAILIA/SUEZ VISIT.

2. MUHAMMED SID AHMAD: ON EVENING OF HIS ARRIVAL, APRIL 16, SENATOR HASKELL HAD ONE-HOUR AFTER-DINNER CONVERSATION WITH MUHAMMED SID AHMAD, EGYPTIAN MARXIST WHO NOW WORKS FOR AL AHRAH NEWSPAPER. CONTROL OFFICER WAS NOT PRESENT, BUT ACCORDING TO BRIEFING FROM CODEL, MUHAMMED SID AHMAD EXPLAINED VARIOUS HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENTS OF PALESTINIAN, EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN POSITIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 05318 01 OF 03 201331Z

2. SAYYID MAR'I: ON APRIL 18 SENATOR HASKELL MET FIRST WITH PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEAKER MAR'I. MINISTER OF HOUSING OSMAN WAS UNEXPECTEDLY PRESENT FOR MEETING. SPEAKER SAID THAT EGYPT HAS PROVED IT WANTS PEACE. DEVELOPMENT OF THREE CANAL CITIES IS ONE PROOF THAT EGYPT DOES NOT INTEND TO GO TO WAR AGAIN. EGYPTIAN PEACE OVERTURES, HOWEVER, HAVE NOT BEEN RECIPROCATED FROM ISRAELI SIDE. FROM STANDPOINT OF FINANCES, MAR'I SAID ISRAELI GETS MORE AND MORE ARMS AND TALKS LESS AND LESS ABOUT PEACE. ISRAEL HAS ALSO DEVELOPED ATOM BOMB. THESE ARE HARDLY ADEQUATE REPLIES TO EGYPTIAN MOVES. MAR'I SAID THERE NOW TWO DIRECTIONS IN MIDDLE EAST, MODERATE AND EXTREME. EGYPT IS PURSUING ONLY PRACTICAL COURSE AND UNITED STATES MUST PLAY A ROLE TO MEEP UP MOMENTUM. MAR'I SAID MOMENTUM SLOWING WITH U.S. ELECTIONS. SENATOR HASKELL ASKED WHAT WOULD EGYPTIAN POSITION BE IF U.S. URGED CREATION OF SEPARATE PALESTINIAN STATE ON WEST BANK AND IN GAZA. MAR'I SAID EGYPT WOULD FULLY SUPPORT SUCH PROPOSAL. SPEAKER POINTED OUT THAT ISRAELIS HAD LOST MANY CHANCES TO DEAL WITH PALESTINIANS THROUGH HUSSEIN, E.G., 1971 AND 1974 BEFORE RABAT. NOW BY PROCRASTINATING THEY MAY LOSE CHANCE TO DEAL WITH ARAFAT, ONLY REAL MODERATE IN PLO. MAR'I EXPLAINED THAT AFTER SINAI II AGREEMENT, PALESTINIANS ATTACKED EGYPT, BUT NOW, WITH SYRIANS TRYING TO GAIN CONTROL OF PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT, YASSIR ARAFAT IS ASKING EGYPT FOR ASSITANCE. MAR'I SAID THAT PALESTINIANS WOULD ALSO SUPPORT CREATION OF WEST BANK/GAZA STATE BUT NO ONE SHOULD EXPECT THEM TO DECLARE THIS NOW. ARAFAT REPRESENTS MAJORITY OF PALESTINIANS; AND THEY WILL GO ALONG WITH THIS IDEA, MA'I SAID. HE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT SADAT IS STRONGEST LEADER IN ARAB WORLD SINCE CREATION OF ISRAEL AND THAT ISRAELIS SHOULD NOT LOSE CHANCE TO DEAL WITH HIM. IT DOESN'T MATTER, MAR'I ASSERTED, IF ISRAEL HAS "ALL THE ARMS AND ATOM BOMB," STRUGGLE WILL NOT CEASE AS LONG AS THERE IS NO PEACE.

4. SENATOR HASKELL NOTED ARAFAT'S DEMAND THAT PALESTINIANS MUST RETURN TO LANDS IN ISRAEL. HE FELT THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE AND ASKED MAR'I'S OPINION. MAR'I SAID THAT POINT IS NEGOTIABLE AND SOLVABLE ONLY AFTER CREATION OF PALESTINIAN STATE ON WEST BANK/GAZA. ON ONE COULD ASK

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAIRO 05318 01 OF 03 201331Z

PALESTINIANS NOW TO RENOUNCE RETURN TO THEIR LANDS, THIS CAN ONLY COME IN CONTEXT OF CREATION OF PALESTINIAN STATE. LIKEWISE, MAR'I SAID, ONE CANNOT EXPECT PALESTINIAN RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL PRIOR TO CREATION OF PALESTINIAN STATE. PALESTINIANS MUST HAVE A STATE FOR WHICH THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE. THEN THEY WILL HAVE TO BEHAVE LIKE A STATE AND ALL THESE PROBLEMS WILL BE SOLVED. MAR'I SAID IN AMERICA IT IS BELIEVED THAT MORE ARMS FOR ISRAEL GETS MORE LEVERAGE FOR UNITED STATES OVER ISRAEL.

GIVING ARMS WITHOUT CONDITIONS WILL NOT KEEP ISRAELIS QUIET,
MAR'I OPINED.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 05318 02 OF 03 201357Z

43

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /025 W

----- 014726

P 201300Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2226

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 CAIRO 5318

5. MAR'I SAID THAT EGYPT IS NOT ASKING FOR ARMS IN PAYMENT FOR ABROGATION OF SOVIET TREATY. SIX AIRCRAFT (C-130'S) ARE PURELY SYMBOLIC, MEANING THAT UNITED STATES IS COMING INTO PICTURE. THIS IS A PERIOD OF RECOVERY FOR EGYPTIAN/U.S. RELATIONS. SENATOR HASKELL ASKED MAR'I IF SOVIETS WOULD BACK CREATION OF PALESTINIAN STATE. MAR'I REPLIED THAT THEY WOULD CERTAINLY NOT DO SO IF IDEA IS EGYPTIAN. THEY MIGHT IF IDEA IS AMERICAN. MAR'I THEN REFERRED TO ACTIONS OF SOVIETS IN WAKE OF SADAT'S ABROGATION OF FRIENDSHIP TREATY. HE SAID IT IS SOVIETS WHO ARE ESCALATING SITUATION. MAR'I WARNED SOVIETS ARE WORKING VERY HARD WITH STUDENTS AND WORKERS; THEY ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ANY U.S. MISTAKE TO SHOW THAT SADAT'S POLICIES WILL NOT WORK.

6. SENATOR HASKELL TOLD SPEAKER THAT HE CAN SEE SENATE SUPPLYING SIX C-130'S AND THAT HE CAN ALSO ENVISAGE FURTHER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, BUT HE CANNOT ENVISAGE THE SUPPLY OF MAJOR MILITARY ITEMS TO EGYPT. HE ASKED THE SPEAKER TO GIVE HIS IMPRESSION OF THIS. MAR'I SAID THAT HE AGREED WITH SENATOR'S ASSESSMENT, BUT THAT EGYPTIAN PEOPLE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THIS POLICY. USSR GAVE MAJOR ARMS, THEN THEY BEGAN TO DELAY, PEOPLE ASKED WHY AND FREINDSHIP TREATY WAS TERMINATED. PEOPLE WANT NO FURTHER CONFLICT, BUT THEY WANT TO BE STRONG ENOUGH TO NEGOTIATE. IF YOU LIMIT ARMS SALES TO EGYPT YOU MUST MAKE SURE THAT ISRAEL CONTINUES PEACE PROCESS. HASKELL AGREED THAT PERHAPS BEST WAY TO PURSUE PEACE IS TO PUT RESTRICTIONS ON AID TO ISRAEL, BOTH ECONOMIC AND MILITARY.

MAR'I SAID IT HAS BEEN PROVED THAT WAR DOES NOT PROTECT
ISRAEL. HE SAID THAT EGYPT WILL CONTINUE ITS SEARCH FOR PEACE,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 05318 02 OF 03 201357Z

BUT ISRAEL MUST ALSO CONTINUE. IS ISRAEL CONTINUES, THEN
SUCH U.S. ARMS POLICY TOWARDS EGYPT WOULD BE UNDERSTOOD.

7. MAR'I REPEATED THAT UNITED STATES IS NOT GETTING ANYTHING
FROM ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL. THE SENATOR TOLD MAR'I
THAT WHILE IT MAY NOT LOOK LIKE MUCH, THERE IS A FEELING
THAT WE MUST START INQUIRING ABOUT OUR AID TO ISRAEL;
THIS IS A BIG STEP FOR CONGRESS. MAR'I AGREED, BUT SAID
THAT HE IS AFRAID IT WILL COME TOO LATE. IMMEDIATELY, SOME
TIME IS AVAILABLE BECAUSE SADAT HAS DECIDED THERE CAN BE NO
MOVEMENT IN 1976 BECAUSE OF ELECTIONS, BUT WE CANNOT WAIT TOO
LONG.

8. MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT REPORTED SEPTEL.

9. FAHMY: SENATOR HASKELL NEXT MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
FAHMY. FAHMY SAID FOLLOWING PRESIDENT SADAT'S RECENT
EUROPEAN TRIP, WEST EUROPEANS NOW ACKNOWLEDGE PUBLICALLY
IMPORTANCE OF PALESTINIAN PROBLEM. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION
ON IMPORTANCE OF US ELECTIONS IN MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMACY, FAHMY
SAID, THAT IN HIS OPINION JEWISH VOTE AND INFLUENCE IN ELECTIONS
IS NOT SUBSTANTIAL. CURRENT US STALLING TACTIC COMES ABOUT
DESPITE ELECTIONS AND IS BASED ON MOVES IN COOPERATION OR
COLLABORATION WITH ISRAEL. HE EXPRESSED HIS DISBELIEF THAT
ANY SUPERPOWER SHOULD TIE ITSELF TO SMALL POWER THE WAY U.S.
HAS TIED ITSELF TO ISRAEL. SITUATION SHOWED ITSELF IN
COLLAPSE OF MARCH NEGOTIATIONS IN ASWAN, WHERE ISRAEL WOULD
NOT AGREE. SENATOR HASKELL SAID HE BELIEVES IT IS UP TO US TO BEGIN
TO TALK ABOUT PALESTINIANS OUTSIDE CLOSED ROOMS. FAHMY
ASKED WHY RESPONSIBLE SENATORS, IN INCREASING NUMBERS,
CAN MEET WITH YARRIS ARAFAT AND ADMINISTRATION WILL NOT
ALLOW DISCUSSIONS WITH PALESTINIANS. THE SENATOR SAID
THERE IS A DEFINITE MOVE IN CONGRESS TO DEAL WITH AND TALK
ABOUT PLO.

10. SENATOR HASKELL RECALLED THAT HE WAS ONE OF THOSE
SENATORS WHO HAD VOTED AGAINST THE SINAI II AGREEMENT BECAUSE
HE FELT (A) IT WOULD REMOVE SOME OF THE INCENTIVE FOR
NEGOTIATION ON THE ISRAELI SIDE AND (B) BECAUSE IT WOULD REMOVE
INCENTIVE TO NEGOTIATE ON THE EGYPTIAN SIDE. AS A RESULT OF
HIS TOUR IN EGYPT UP TO THAT POINT HE WAS HAPPY TO SAY HE WAS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAIRO 05318 02 OF 03 201357Z

REVISING HIS THINKING ON VALIDITY OF SECOND OBJECTION.

11. AMBASSADOR EILTS ASKED SENATOR WHAT IS VIEW OF CONGRESS RE DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN U.S. AND EGYPT. SENATOR HASKELL REPLIED HE BELIEVES CONGRESS WILL GO FOR FURTHER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR EGYPT, THAT IT WILL GO FOR TOKEN MILITARY ASSISTANCE, BUT THAT HE CANNOT SEE A MAJOR MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP. FAHMY SAID AS RESULT OF STRAINED RELATIONS WITH RUSSIANS WE HAVE NO ARMS. NEVERTHELESS WE WILL NEVER BE AT MERCY OF ISRAELIS; THEREFORE WE WILL FIND ARMS. FAHMY SAID IT IS IN BEST US INTERESTS NOT TO GIVE ONLY TOKEN ASSISTANCE, BUT TO RESTORE PARITY BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. ONLY THEN WILL THERE BE A PUSH FOR PEACE. IF EGYPT GOES TO GENEVA AND THERE IS GREAT DISPARITY IN MILITARY POWER, ISRAELIS WILL NEVER MAKE COMPROMISES.

12. FAHMY SAID THAT EGYPT DOES NOT TAKE ORDERS FROM ANYONE. HE SAID THIS IS TROUBLE WITH RUSSIANS, THEY GAVE ARMS BUT THEY WANTED A PRIVILEGED POSITION. DURING NASSER'S TIME EGYPT GAVE IMPRESSION THAT USSR COULD HAVE A PRIVILEGED POSITION. EVEN NASSER ACCEPTED ROGERS PLAN WHILE HE WAS IN MOSCOW. THE SENATOR SAID IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL REASONS TO SUPPLY EGYPT WITH MAJOR ARMS. FOR THIS REASON, BEST ALTERNATIVE IS TO ATTACH CONDITIONS TO ARMS AID FOR ISRAEL SO THAT THEY WILL MOVE ON THE PEACE FRONT. FAHMY DISAGREED, SAYING ISRAEL WILL NOT MOVE WITHOUT ARMS PRESSURE. HE SAID IT HAS TAKEN MORE THAN A YEAR TO GET THE SIX C-130'S. IF YOU DON'T GIVE US WEAPONS WE WILL FIND THEM ON INTERNATIONAL MARKET. SENATOR HASKELL SAID THAT IF WE SELL ARMS TO EGYPT WE WOULD BE ACCUSED OF ARMING BOTH SIDES, HE SAID HE DOES NOT THINK SUCH A POLICY IS POSSIBLE. HE VIEWED AS MORE LIKELY CONDITIONAL MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID TO ISRAEL WITH HOPE OF TRYING TO MOVE THEM TOWARD PEACE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 05318 03 OF 03 201432Z

43

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /025 W

----- 015225

P 201300Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2227
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 3 CAIRO 5318

13. FAHMY MENTIONED OPEN DOOR POLICY AND SAID THAT GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SECTOR. DURING NASSER YEARS, GOVERNMENT EVEN BECAME RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPPLYING EGGS AND ICE. THIS MUST STOP, FAHMY SAID. HE IS GLAD TO SEE US ASSISTANCE BEING GIVEN IN FORMS OTHER THAN FOOD. REMARKS ON GOODYEAR PROPOSAL REPORTED CAIRO 5266.

14. TRIP TO SUEZ CANAL AREA: ON APRIL 18, SENATOR HASKELL, ACCOMPANIED BY EMBASSY CIENCE OFFICER ADDISON RICHMOND, MADE ONE-DAY VISIT TO ISMAILIA AND SUEZ. IN SUEZ HE MET WITH GOVERNOR OF SUEZ MOHAMMED FAYEK BURINI AND WAS TAKEN ON BOAT TOUR OF PORT TWEFIK AND SUEZ HARBORS TO SEE, FIRST-HAND, RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT. HE ALSO VISITED NEW HOUSING UNITS IN "KING FAISAL CITY," WHERE HE WAS SHOWN THREE-ROOM APARTMENT RENTING FOR ABOUT LE 6 PER MONTH.

15. IN ISMAILIA, SENATOR RECEIVED FULL BRIEFING ON REOPENING, CURRENT AND PROJECTED USE AND PLANS FOR WIDENING AND DEEPENING CANAL FROM CANAL AUTHORITY CHAIRMAN MASHUR AHMAD MASHUR. AUTOMOBILE TRIP FROM SUEZ TO ISMAILIA PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO SEE SEVERAL SHIPS, INCLUDING "SUPER TANKER" IN LIGHT BALLAST, IN CANAL PASSAGE. MASHUR NOTED THAT APRIL 18 CANAL TRAFFIC REACHED RECORD LEVEL SINCE REOPENING OF 68 SHIPS AND THAT AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF SHIPS, OTHER THAN OIL TANKERS, NOW EXCEEDED PRE-1967 LEVEL. CANAL USE NOW AVERAGING ABOUT 45 SHIPS PER DAY AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 05318 03 OF 03 201432Z

CLIMBING. TONNAGE FIGURES ALSO INCREASING AT A HIGHER RATE THAN NUMERICAL USE DUE TO GROWTH OF AVERAGE TONNAGE OF SHIPS. CUMMULATIVE TOTAL SINCE REOPENING WAS GIVEN AS AROUND 13 MILLION TONS. MASHUR ALSO SAID THAT OVER 80 PERCENT OF PRE-1967 CANAL PILOS WERE BACK AT WORK AND OTHERS WERE IN TRAINING. AFTER BRIEFING, GOVERNOR OF SUEZ, MAJOR GENERAL MAHMOUD ZAKY ABDUL LATIF, AND MASHUR HOSTED LUNCHEON FOR SENATOR AND TOOK HIM RIDING AT SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY STABLES. IN EVENING SENATOR HASKELL JOINED SENATOR JAVITS FOR PRIVATE DINNER WITH AMBASSADOR EILTS.

16. CODEL DID NOT HAVE CHANCE TO REVIEW ABOVE PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR SAUDI ARABIA. WE ARE THEREFORE

REPEATING IT TO JIDDA FOR
SENATOR'S APPROVAL OR FOR ANY CHANGES HE MAY WISH TO MAKE.

17. FOR JIDDA FOR CODEL HASKELL: PLEASE CABLE YOUR
APPROVAL OR ANY CHANGES WHICH YOU MAY HAVE AFTER YOU
HAVE REVIEWED THE ABOVE REPORT.
EILTS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO05318
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760149-0234
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760445/aaaablqi.tel
Line Count: 338
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 OCT 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 OCT 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL HASKELL - WRAP UP
TAGS: OREP, (HASKELL, FLOYD K)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006